

Application No.: 09/446,521

Attorney Docket No.: 21581-00180

REMARKS

Claims 33-66 are now in the application. The allowance of claims 33-42 and 44-62 is hereby noted with appreciation.

Claim 64 has been amended to correct the spelling of "producing" for purposes of clarification and not to limit its scope.

New claims 65 and 66 correspond to claims 63 and 64, respectively, except that the phrase "for reaction of the alkenyl group of said polymer" is added to these claims. This phrase is exemplified and finds basis from the reaction formula in Example 1 on page 61.

The amendments to the claims and newly presented claims 65 and 66 do not introduce any matter.

The rejection of claim 43 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is recitation "R²" as lacking antecedent basis is not deemed tenable since claim 41 from which such claim depends explicitly includes this recitation.

Claims 63 and 64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,696,536 to Grubbs et al.

The rejection over Grubbs et al. is not deemed tenable since Grubbs et al. fail to antedate these claims. These claims find support in the Japanese priority applications.

In particular, the AB block copolymer and the ABA block copolymer find their support in the certified translations of JP10-119,291 at section [0057][pages 33-35]; of JP10-207,328 at sections [0057] and [0058][pages 35 and 36]; JP10-207,329 at sections [0045] and [0046][pages 30 and 31]; and JP10-234,428 at sections [0035] and [0036][pages 24 and 25].

The straight chain copolymer finds its support in the certified translation of JP10-234, 428 at section [0011] [page 6].

Also, Grubbs et al suggest an ATRP reaction, but does not disclose living cationic polymerization system.

Accordingly, the rejection over Grubbs et al under 102(e) is not tenable.

Likewise, newly presented claims 65 and 66 are not rejectable over Grubbs et al under 102(e). Furthermore, the inventions claimed in new claims 65 and 66 recite the step of adding an alkenyl-containing polymer (I) to a polymerization system for reaction of the alkenyl group of said polymer.

US 6,696,536 to Grubbs et al. does not disclose or suggest such step.

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Grubbs et al suggest that the ROMP reaction is followed by a ATRP reaction wherein the ROMP telechelic polymer product is further polymerized according to the reaction formula on col. 9, line 40. In this formula, the group Z in the polymer is reacted, but the alkenyl group in the polymer is not reacted and remains as it is.

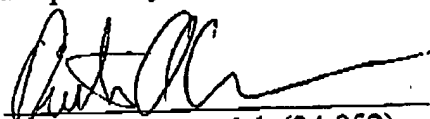
Therefore, it is clear that Grubbs et al do not disclose the inventions claimed in new claims 65 and 66.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including any extension fees, to CBLH Deposit Account No. 22-0185.

Respectfully submitted,



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